

## In2science Peer Mentor Profiles – Brendon Lane

**Currently working as a Senior Maths/Science Teacher, Brendon volunteered as a peer mentor in 2005-2006.**



At La Trobe University I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology in 2006. This was followed, in 2007 by a Graduate Diploma in Education (P-12) in the hope of becoming a science teacher. My love of environmental science was started while studying geography in year 12 and my desire to be a teacher began, I guess, when I was born.

I applied for the In2science program during my 2<sup>nd</sup> year of study after seeing a brochure at the University and thinking the program would give me a taste of my future vocation.

My first and second placements took place at Wodonga Middle Years College, Huon Campus, where I participated in and added to the authentic learning experience of many year 7 and 8 students, as well as learning a lot of science I had forgotten.

My third placement at Wodonga Middle Years College, Feltrimber Campus gave me the opportunity to work with a school in which junior science was being taught by very enthusiastic teachers who were not trained in science. This experience made me more passionate and was the final influence in my decision to pursue science teaching.

Being a Peer Mentor has definitely contributed to my love of science and education and has also given me more confidence at interacting with a wide variety of people from children to adults. The program has also developed my ability to engage students' interests and communicate information at an appropriate level.



A major plus for me from In2science, was a head start on the road to being a teacher and it gave me a lot of experience which has been recognised both by the University and my current employer.

Currently I am working for St. Augustine's School, Kyabram as a Senior Maths/Science teacher and the experience I gained from In2science is evident in my confidence in the classroom, my wide repertoire of practical activities and my success in engaging my students.

**Brendon**

